

# Plans to End Freight Tie-Up of 100,000 Cars



The



World.



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## RAILROADS NOW TO SAVE BILLION YEARLY; BIG SALARIES OF PRESIDENTS TO BE CUT

### 100,000 CARS OF FREIGHT TIED UP IN NEW YORK ZONE; U. S. RED TAPE IS BLAMED

Three Commissions Unite in Efforts to Clear the Great Congestion Here.

MUCH FOOD SHUT OFF.

Enormous Shipments for the Government Block the Railway Tracks.

Without waiting for the Federal Government to begin operation of the Interstate Commerce Commission, New York Public Service Commission and New Jersey Public Utilities Commission have joined forces to clear up the freight blockade of New York Harbor and the surrounding area. Already they have discovered:

That there are approximately 100,000 cars of freight in the metropolitan area.

That the United States Government is the worst offender in failing to unload cars and keeping them standing on terminal tracks.

That speculators in foodstuffs have many cars of produce standing on tracks.

That the re-consignment privilege is being abused by market speculators and adds greatly to the congestion.

That drastic action is necessary to break the blockade and the three commissions are proceeding promptly against individual violators.

The worst offender in the blockade of New York is the United States Government, with the War Department heading the list. It is doing more to barricade the metropolis in railroad yards and to confiscate the inadequate supply of harbor floating equipment through unnecessary red tape and needless movements than any other shipper.

GOVERNMENT RED TAPE CAUSE FREIGHT BLOCKADES.

In a report made public to-day by the three commissions they touch but lightly on the Government's offense, but The Evening World by further investigation of its own disclosed some of the Federal contributions to the freight congestion. The commissions said:

"There are enormous shipments for the Government in the yards and on the tracks in the metropolitan area which are complicating the situation. This matter, however, is being taken up directly with the War Department, for it is realized that it is inadvisable to make public the details in respect to Government shipments or the methods of handling."

Some of the things which The Evening World learned, however, of Government methods that do not come within the ban of censorship were these:

Enormous quantities of quartermaster and commissary goods are floated across the harbor to Governor's Island army headquarters and then out again, for the simple reason that War Department red tape apparently requires many kinds of goods to go to department headquarters rather than to destination.

Instead of building warehouses on the mainland close by railroad terminals, the most inaccessible island

### PROPOSAL MERELY BAIT TO RUSSIANS U. S. VIEW

Still Lack Essential Element Demanded by Wilson, Elimination of Hohenzollernism.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Central Powers' peace overtures to Russia still lack the essential element demanded by President Wilson and seconded by England—elimination of Hohenzollernism.

The conditions surrounding Count Czernin's proposals cause officials here to feel some apprehension for their sincerity. One condition, regarded as impossible for the present at least, is that the adherence of all belligerents must be secured to the peace the Germans are trying to make with Russia before it can become effective.

It can be stated authoritatively that the position of the American Government has not changed in any respect with regard to its determination to enter into no agreement with a Government which does not represent the free will of the governed people.

### 73 PNEUMONIA DEATHS IN 24 HOURS; NEW RECORD

Highest in Last Five Years, Says Health Official—Shortage of Coal One of Causes.

The following table showing the total number of deaths from pneumonia yesterday up to noon to-day in the five boroughs, together with those due to pneumonia, was given out by the Department of Health:

	Total	Deaths	Pneumonia
Manhattan.....	122	21	21
Brooklyn.....	103	22	22
Bronx.....	34	10	10
Queens.....	23	8	8
Richmond.....	8	1	1
Total.....	290	73	73

Dr. Charles F. Bolduan, Director of Health Education, said this was the highest record for pneumonia for twenty-four hours for the last five years. He laid the increase in pneumonia deaths to shortage of coal, failure of persons to bundle up when going out in the cold, neglecting colds and improper ventilation in homes and places of employment.

From last Saturday noon up to noon to-day there were a total of 1,121 deaths, of which 249 were due to pneumonia.

### BOMB ATTACK MADE ON AMERICAN CONSUL

Explosive Hurlled at Building Occupied by the Consul General in Odessa.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The American Consul General at Odessa was the object of a bomb attack early in the morning of the 18th, according to a State Department message to-day.

The Consul General said unidentified persons had hurled a bomb at the building during his absence, and that considerable damage had been done.

All inquiries by Congress Adjourn for New Year's Festival.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—President Wilson attended the funeral of Senator Newlands this afternoon. He postponed a conference with the Brotherhood chiefs and legislative representatives. All the Congressional probe committees adjourned early this afternoon out of respect to the late Senator.

EVERARD'S BROWN STOUT—America's tonic for 55 years. Sold everywhere. Adm.

### RUSSIA DEMANDS GERMANY RESTORE VIOLATED NATIONS

"No Annexations, No Indemnities" Peace Terms Declared Incomplete.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 27.—Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, at the session of the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk Tuesday read a statement to the effect that the Central Powers agreed to conclude immediately a general peace without forcible annexations and indemnities.

The chairman of the Russian delegation demurred at the German statement on self-definition as being incomplete. He said the war could not end without the re-establishment of the violated rights of little and oppressed nationalities and Russia would insist on guarantees that their lawful rights would be protected in a general peace treaty.

"Violated rights must be re-established."

"Renouncing the application of the right of the stronger nation with regard to territories occupied during the war," he said, "the Powers of the Quadruple Alliance at the same time give all their opponents an immediate peace ground. They affirm that the right of the stronger, after unprecedented bloodshed, shall be preserved with all its integrity within each of the countries with no regard for little and oppressed nationalities."

"The war cannot end without the violated rights of those nationalities being re-established. The Russian delegation insists that those nationalities must in the very next peace treaty establishing a general peace among all nationalities receive, on the basis of international agreement, guarantees that their lawful rights will be protected. The lapse of time in no case legalizes the violation of one people by another."

Russia's delegation, he stated in conclusion, notwithstanding differences of opinion, thought that the German declaration that Germany has no aggressive plans offered the possibility of the immediate beginning of negotiations for a general peace among all belligerents. He proposed a ten days' recess until Jan. 4, "so that the peoples whose Governments have not yet joined in the negotiations for a general peace may have an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the principles of such a peace as now is being established."

AGAINST KEEPING UP WAR FOR SAKE OF CONQUEST.

Count Czernin declared that the Central Powers believed that the basic principles uttered by the Russian delegates could be the basis of such a peace. He said they shared Russian condemnation of a continuation of the war for the sake of conquest.

It is necessary, the Count added, to indicate most clearly, however, that the Russian proposals could be realized only in the event that all belligerents obligated themselves to adhere to the terms of such a peace.

Regarding the six clauses proposed by the Russian delegates as a basis of negotiations, Count Czernin's statement said:

"Clause 1. Forcible annexations of territories seized during the war does not enter into the intentions of the (Central) allied powers. About troops now occupying seized territories it must be stipulated in the peace treaty, if there is no agreement before, regarding the evacuation of these places."

"Clause 2. It is not the intention of the allies to deprive the political independence of those nations which lost it during the war."

"Clause 3.—The question of submission to that or the other country of

### HYLAN TO SEE WILSON TO-MORROW AND PLEDGE AID OF REGIME IN WAR

Call at White House May Have Bearing Also on New York Police Commissioner's Position.

Mayor-elect Hyman will go to Washington to-night to call on President Wilson in the White House to-morrow morning. He will be accompanied by Congressman Thomas P. Smith, Secretary of Tammany Hall.

The journey is one of Judge Hyman's own suggestion, as no special invitation has been extended by the President.

No announcement of appointments was made by the Mayor-elect to-day. The list will not be given out until New Year's. The selection of a Police Commissioner is still undecided. The trip to Washington may have bearing upon the final decision.

### "OUR YOUNGSTERS HELPING TO HOLD THE PIAVE LINE," MAJOR MURPHY CABLES

U. S. Red Cross Director Tells of Relief Work Among the Italians.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Major Murphy, American Red Cross Commissioner to Europe, back in Paris after establishing relief work in Italy, reported by cable to-day on what he and his fellow workers accomplished.

"Whatever else we may have done or failed to do," says the message, after recounting the establishing of warehouses and the distribution of supplies, "we have raised the American flag from one end of Italy to the other, and our youngsters to-day are doing their part in helping to hold the Piave line."

Of the situation he found on arriving in Italy just after the great Teutonic invasion, Major Murphy's report says: "A vicious propaganda had spread the report that America was not friendly to Italy; that we were not interested in the war and even that we were afraid to antagonize Austria, as well as Germany."

### AMERICAN FLYER FALLS WITHIN GERMAN LINES

Stuart Walcott, Son of Secretary of Smithsonian Institution, Had Demolished Three Machines.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Secretary Walcott of the Smithsonian Institution, whose son, Stuart Walcott, flying with the American Army in France, fell behind the German lines after a fight, to-day received the following cable from Paris:

"Stuart fell in enemy lines Dec. 12, fighting three single scoters after demolishing enemy two-seater. Fate unknown."

Inquiries are now being made through channels reaching to Germany as to his fate.

### U. S. PRIVATES CAN'T RIDE FIRST CLASS IN BRITAIN

American Commanders Issue Orders That Men Comply With the English Rules.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—American enlisted men can no longer climb into first class compartments on British railways and ride with officers. One of the British army regulations prohibits privates travelling first class and makes it mandatory upon officers.

When the first Americans reached England they scorned third class coaches and rode with the officers. Army authorities decided it was unwise to discriminate in favor of the Americans. The American commanders agreed and the order was issued.

Ask President to Stop Sale of Liquor at Newport.

NEWPORT, R. I., Dec. 27.—President Wilson was requested in resolutions adopted to-day by the Newport War Camp and Community Service Committee to prohibit the sale of liquor here because the presence of liquor might be a source of danger to vital Government interests.

### SUGAR PROFITEER LOSES LICENSE FOR DURATION OF WAR

Lefkowitz, Wholesale Grocer, Forced to Close—Food Board Warns Others.

The Federal license of Hyman L. Lefkowitz, wholesale grocer, of No. 1420 Brook Avenue, convicted of profiteering in food supplies, has been suspended for the duration of the war and Lefkowitz is forced to close his place of business, according to an announcement by the Federal Food Board to-day. The specific charge against Lefkowitz was filed with the Food Administration by R. M. Cushman, a baker, at the corner of Amsterdam Avenue and West 146th Street, who accused Lefkowitz of charging him 15 cents a pound for sugar.

John Mitchell, Chairman of the Federal Food Board, and Arthur Williams, Federal Food Administrator for New York City, said to-day that equally drastic action may be expected in all cases where flagrant violations of the Food Administration are proved. The Food Board announcement in the Lefkowitz case says:

"This is the first instance in this city of a licensed wholesale dealer having his business suspended for the period of the war, and the board wishes it to be known that similar decisions may be expected in all cases of sugar profiteering that are so flagrant as this one was shown to be. The recommendation becomes effective immediately."

"All the evidence in the case showed that Lefkowitz had been hoarding up sugar and exacting unlawful prices for it."

### WAR AID TO ALLIES IS PLEDGED BY JAPAN

Prepared to Co-operate to Full Extent of Nation's Ability, Says Emperor to Parliament.

TOKYO, Dec. 27.—Co-operation of Japan with her allies in the war was pledged to-day by Emperor Yoshihito in the speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament. The Emperor said Japan's relations with the Entente Powers were extremely close.

"The European war," he said, "is becoming more and more important. It becomes us to devote our efforts toward more effective co-operation with the Allied Powers. We are prepared to co-operate to the fullest extent of our ability while maintaining peace in the Orient."

"In consequence of present conditions we have ordered our Ministers to present plans having to do with the necessities of national defense."

### FOUR HURT IN AUTO UPSET.

Car Skids and Throws Out Men and Young Women at Hollis.

While running along Hollis Avenue at Hollis, Queens, early to-day, an automobile owned by Joseph Hadden of Bayside, skidded on the ice on one side of the road and turned over. The four occupants, including the owner, were thrown out and injured. The police were told that the car was driven by Claude Van Demark, a salesman of Buffalo. The others injured were Madeline Fordham, twenty-four, of Sag Harbor, who possibly has a fractured skull, and Mary Richardson, nineteen, of Buffalo. After the injured had been treated by surgeons from Jamaica hospital they were taken to Hadden's home.

Government Takes Over Airplane Plant.

United States District Attorney Francis of Brooklyn, today took title in the name of the Government to the plant of the General Vehicle Company, Inc., in Long Island City, for which the Government has paid \$1,000,000. The plant, which covers an area of four square blocks, will be devoted to airplane building.

### THE POOH-BAH OF THE ADMINISTRATION



WILLIAM G. McADOO  
Director General of Railroads.  
Secretary of the Treasury.  
Chairman Federal Reserve Board.  
Chairman National Farm Loan Board.  
Chairman of the International High Commission.

### ALL STOCKS BOOM ON ACTION FOR U. S. CONTROL OF ROADS

Shares Up 2 to 17 Points, With B. & O. & D. & H. in the Lead.

An enormous rise in prices of Stock Exchange securities to-day was Wall Street's way of testifying how thoroughly it approves the President's action in taking over the railroads of the country. The ticker tape answered all doubts concerning Government operation. Quotations of leading railroad stocks swung immediately from the long and depressing decline and made the highest jump witnessed in many years on the Exchange.

There were wide variations in the rise, some securities making only two or three points, while others leaped forward ten to seventeen points, but all advanced. Industrials and mining shares felt the effects of the same inspiration and moved upward, although not directly affected by the Government's action.

Opening prices sailed wildly, those securities which had been favorite footholds for the bears rising highest over the top. After an hour quotations simmered down a bit to more normal levels. Some of the leading prices were:

	Previous Close	Today's Close
Atchafalaya	100	105
B. & O.	27	32
D. & H.	100	105
N. Y. C.	100	105
P. & N.	100	105
R. I.	100	105
S. E. I.	100	105
U. S. R.	100	105

Total sales for the day were 1,210,100 shares. Baltimore and Ohio had the largest rise of 17-1/4 points, while Delaware and Hudson was second, 14 points up, and St. Paul third, 12-1/2 up.

From a financial point of view the crucial clause in the President's proclamation is that which guarantees return on capital invested in the railroads on a basis of net earnings for the last three years. As two of these years were banner ones in railroad history, it means present dividends are certain. For all roads of the country, if their earnings were pooled, it would mean an average in excess of 8 per cent. on book value.

### \$200,000,000 MAY BE SPENT FOR NEW ROLLING STOCK ON COUNTRY'S RAILROAD SYSTEM

Director-General Preparing Plans for Operation of the Lines—Present Heads of Systems and the Men in Sympathy With New Order.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—From plans already under contemplation for the management of the railroads being taken under Government control to-morrow, it is believed that hundreds of millions of dollars may be saved yearly in the cost of operation. Some estimates go as high as a billion dollars per annum.

### U. S. RAILROADS BIGGEST BUSINESS IN WORLD AS NOW CONSTITUTED.

Miles of road, 391,000.
Number of employees, 3,000,000.
Outstanding securities, \$21,000,000,000.
Number of investors, 1,500,000.
Passengers carried per year, 1,000,000,000.
Freight carried per year, 2,000,000,000 tons.

### ITALIANS DEFEAT AUSTRIAN FORCE 10 TIMES AS BIG

Wear White Uniforms Invisible Against Snow in Christmas Day Surprise Attack.

ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS (United Press), Dec. 27.—Clad in white uniforms, invisible against the background of snow, Italian troops attacked and routed a body of Austrians ten times their number in a Christmas Day surprise east of Monte Grappa. It was announced to-day.

The Italians, resembling a band of Pierrots, swooped down upon the Austrian positions, scattering defenders over the mountainside.

The Austrians were entirely unprepared, apparently enjoying a Christmas day rest.

### ELEVEN GERMAN PLANES LOST IN BIG AIR BATTLE OVER ITALIAN FRONT

Rome Reports Defeat of a Raiding Squadron of Twenty-Five by Italians and British.

ROME, Dec. 27.—It is officially announced that eleven Austro-German airplanes have been brought down by the British and Italian forces in a big aerial battle which developed when the Teutons made an unsuccessful attempt to bomb Treviso, sixteen miles north of Venice. There were twenty-five Teuton machines in the attacking squadron. All the Italian and British machines returned safely.

It has been definitely decided upon to reduce the large salaries now paid to railroad Presidents. Some of these receive from \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year. It is said that a maximum may be set at \$10,000 a year. Many of the Presidents have given assurance that they will be fully in accord with all the plans of the Administration. They will aid as far as is in their power the work of reorganization, as they look upon themselves as men drafted by their country.

Two hundred million dollars, it is estimated, will be spent upon new rolling stock for some of the roads taken over.

Preliminaries for actual taking over of the railroads by the Government at noon to-morrow moved forward swiftly to-day and overshadowed all other war activities in the Capitol.

There was some disposition toward criticism in Congress, principally on the ground that the Government proposed to allow the railroads too much. But there was no indication that the President's plans would be seriously opposed and everything was prepared for enacting necessary laws soon after he explains the situation in an address to Congress.

BELIEVE IT ONLY BEGINNING OF GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

Many members of the House and Senate predicted that the step was only the beginning of Government operation and control, and that it would soon extend to telegraph and telephone lines, if not indeed to the distribution of all of life's necessities.

Director General McAdoo spent the day in intensive study of problems which must be solved at the outset. President Wilson conferred with the heads of the four great railway brotherhoods. It appeared probable that the latest demand for increases in pay would be handled by a committee of managers to be appointed by Mr. McAdoo.

The Interstate Commerce Committee in Congress began a survey of the legislation they will prepare to carry the President's plans into effect.

Mr. McAdoo, it is understood, will not vacate his present position as Secretary of the Treasury.

INDUSTRIES OF NATION NOW UNDER WAR CONTROL.

Industrial America is now virtually under Federal war control as a result of President Wilson's proclamation for Government operation of the railroads.

Leaders of commercial enterprises working here for the Government, Federal officials and representatives of labor agree to-day that the nation is placed actually on a war footing under the centralized guidance of President Wilson and Secretary McAdoo.

The first act of McAdoo, preliminary to actually starting operation of the roads on Jan. 1, will be the selection of a "board of directors." This

DEWEY'S WINES FOR THE HOLIDAYS. SPECIAL ASSORTED CASES. 225 Fulton St., N. Y. Phone 5001. Corlanti, Adm.

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